



FMA Annual Seminar

“EU Global Strategy on Security and Defence”

Thursday 30 November 2017, 10.00-13.00
Room ASP5E-2, European Parliament, Brussels

Profile of Speakers

Michael Gahler

Member of European Parliament, Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and of the Subcommittee on Security and Defence and President of the Kangaroo Group.

Born in 1960 in Frankfurt/Main, Germany.

Michael Gahler has been a member of the European Parliament since 1999 and is currently (2014-2019) serving as Chair of the Delegation for relations with the Pan-African Parliament. He is member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Security and Defence and the Delegation for relations with South Africa.

Mr Gahler studied law in Mainz and Dijon (1981–87). He joined the Federal Foreign Office in 1990, where he served under ministers Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Klaus Kinkel and Joschka Fischer. While in the diplomatic service, he worked on international environmental policy (1991–93) and Germany's bilateral relations with the Baltic States and the Council of the Baltic Sea States. Between 1993 and 1995, he was seconded to work for the CDU party headquarters in Bonn.

Mr Gahler has been a politician since 1986, when he won a seat on the city council of Hattersheim am Main.

Through his time at the Parliament, he served as member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security and Defence Policy, Committee on Development, Subcommittee on Human Rights, conference of Delegation Chairs. He was the Rapporteur of the EP report on the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base in 2013.



Mr Gahler headed the EU Election Observation Mission during the 2011 election for a constituent assembly, the first vote in after the Tunisian revolution. He later led the EU-Election Observer Mission for the general election in Pakistan in 2013.

In 2014, he was elected Chairman of the delegation for relations with the Pan-African Parliament.

Gahler serves as Rapporteur on the Commission's communication on defence and as a member of the High-level Group of Personalities on Defence Research chaired by Elżbieta Bieńkowska. In addition, he is member of the European Parliament's Sky and Space Intergroup (SSI).

He is a signatory of the Prague Declaration on European Conscience and Communism.

Ivailo Kalfin

Member of the High Level Group on Own Resources, EP Rapporteur on critical information infrastructure protection – achievements and next steps: towards global cybersecurity.

Born in 1964 in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Mr. Kalfin received his higher education at the University of National and World Economy (1983–1988) in Bulgaria and the Loughborough University (1998–1999) in the UK.

Since 2014, he is a member of the High Level Group on Own Resources, exploring new alternatives for own resources to the EU budget with a mandate, agreed by the European Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission.

From October 2014 to May 2016, he served as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Labour and Social Policy.

From July 2009 to October 2014, he served as members of the European Parliament. During this time, he served as Vice-Chair of the Committee on Budgets, and as a member of the Special Committee on the Financial, Economic and Social Crisis and the Delegation for relations with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo.

He was Rapporteur on critical information infrastructure protection – achievements and next steps: towards global cyber-security.

From September 2005 to July 2009, he served as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. He led the process of ratification of Bulgaria's EU Accession Agreement with 24 member states.

From 2002 to 2005, he was Economic Policy Secretary to the President of Bulgaria.



Sir Julian King

EU Commissioner for the Security Union.

Born in 1964.

Sir Julian King is a British diplomat and civil servant.

From February to September 2016, he served as British Ambassador to France.

From 2014 to 2016, he served as Director-General Economic & Consular, FCO Covering Europe, Asia, Prosperity, Migration and Consular.

From 2011 to 2014, he served as Director-General of the Northern Ireland Office, Chair of the NIO Management Board and Departmental Accounting Officer

From 2009 to 2011, he was named British Ambassador to Ireland.

From 2008 to 2009, he served on loan to the EU Commission, as Chef de Cabinet to British Commissioner (at DG Trade, responsible for EU multilateral, regional and bilateral trade negotiations)

From 2004 to 2008, he worked as UK Representative on the EU Political and Security Committee (including Chairing PSC during 2005 UK Presidency)

From 2003 to 2004, he served as Counsellor responsible for UN Security Council negotiations at the UK Mission in New York

From 1998 to 2003, he was the UK Representative on Enlargement Group throughout Central European/Cyprus/Malta accession negotiations and also responsible for European defence in the UK Representation in Brussels.

From 1994 to 1998, he was Private Secretary to Permanent Under- Secretary of State and from 1990 to 1994 Second later First Secretary working on NATO, European defence and CFSP, including spells in Luxemburg, The Hague and Lisbon in FCO.

From 1987 to 1990, he served as third later Second Secretary, Ecole Nationale d'Administration, then Private Secretary to the Ambassador

From 1985 to 1987, he joined FCO, working on Latin America.

King received the title of Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) in 2006 and CVO in 2011. Queen Elizabeth knighted him as Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (KCVO) in 2014.